



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

**Steven L. Beshear, Governor**

**Leonard K. Peters, Secretary**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: Mary Jo Harrod  
800-926-8111**

### **Duke Energy East Bend Station Joins KY EXCEL** *Energy Provider Becomes State Environmental Leader*

**Frankfort, Ky.** (March 14, 2012) – Duke Energy East Bend Station, located in Union, Ky., has joined the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection's (DEP) environmental leadership program, KY EXCEL, as a Master member, the program's highest level.

KY EXCEL recognizes public, corporate and private sector organizations that act to improve Kentucky's diverse and unique environment through environmental leadership.

Duke Energy East Bend Station is part of Duke Energy, one of the largest electric power companies in the country, serving 4 million electric customers in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio and the Carolinas and a half-million natural gas customers in Ohio and Kentucky. In North America, Duke Energy generates and sells wholesale electricity to utilities, cooperatives, municipalities and other large energy users. The company, as a whole, is investing in more efficient power plants, renewable energy, smart-grid technologies and innovative energy efficiency programs and services.

"The Department for Environmental Protection commends the Duke Energy East Bend Station for its decision to join the KY EXCEL program," said Aaron Keatley, deputy commissioner of DEP and director of the Division of Compliance Assistance. "It is important that all Kentucky citizens, businesses and organizations follow Duke Energy's example and ask themselves what they can voluntarily do to protect the Commonwealth's citizens and environment."

In Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, Duke Energy's regulated facilities serve approximately 1.6 million customers with a generating capability of approximately 8,000 megawatts. The company has a diverse mix of generation resources, including nuclear, coal-fired, oil- and natural gas-fired and hydroelectric power plants.

“Duke Energy is committed to operating our facilities in ways that protect air, water and land,” says Randy Clark, general manager, East Bend Station. “Earning the KY EXCEL master membership demonstrates our efforts are leading the way in environmental awareness and stewardship for our Kentucky neighbors.”

The five environmental goals chosen by Duke Energy East Bend Station are to conduct a mercury emissions study and a particulate matter emissions study, recycle office waste, initiate a wildflower planting project on about three acres and offer site tours to high school science teachers.

Launched by DEP in 2006, KY EXCEL is a voluntary program open to any individual, organization, community or business to improve and protect Kentucky’s environment above and beyond the state’s environmental requirements. To learn more, visit <http://dca.ky.gov/kyexcel/> or call the Division of Compliance Assistance toll-free at 800-926-8111.

**###**